IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please amend the drawings as follows.

Please add new Figure 4, enclosed.

REMARKS

The Office Action dated September 19, 2007, has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the specification, claims, drawings, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 1-5 and 7-26 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Claims 27 and 28 have been added. A new drawing is submitted in the attached replacement drawing sheet. No new matter has been added. Claim 6 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1-5 and 7-28 are respectfully submitted for consideration.

Claim 24-25 were objected to because of informalities. Specifically, the Examiner took the position that the use of the slash between transmit and receive is not appropriate. Claim 24 has been amended to replace the term "transmit/receive" with "transmit or receive." As such, it is respectfully requested that the objection of claims 24-25 be withdrawn.

Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 on the grounds that the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter because of the way in which the computer program was recited. The Office Action provided a suggested preamble to overcome the rejection. Independent claim 14 has been amended to recite, "computer program readable medium encoded with instructions which perform the following," as suggested in the Office Action. As such, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claim 14 be withdrawn.

Claims 20-22 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, for failing to provide adequate written description. Specifically, the Office Action asserted that there was no corresponding structure for various means-plus-function features of the claims. This rejection is respectfully traversed with the following reasons.

In certain embodiments of the present invention, the floor status information is provided to the A-party and the B-party by the SIP messages 15, 17, 18 and 19 labeled with '*'. More particularly, in response to receiving the 'SIP INVITE' message 13, the PoC application server 50 may send a 'SIP INVITE' message 15 to the MIS to be routed to the B-party user equipment 44. The IMS may send at this stage a 'SIP 100 TRYING' message 16 back to the application server to confirm that it has received the message. The IMS 45 forwards the 'SIP INVITE*' as message 17 to the PoC enabled B-party user equipment 44. See paragraph [0052] of the present application.

The PoC Application server 50 receives confirmation in message 16 from the IMS that it has received the request in message 15. The PoC application server may send an appropriate message 18 to the IMS. See paragraph of [0053] of the present invention. Thus, as can be seen from the discussion above, the PoC application server 50 provides corresponding structure for the means-plus-function term "means for including floor status information," "means for connecting," and "means for including floor status and means for sending."

At least paragraphs [0052] to [0053] of the present invention provide adequate support for corresponding structure of the means-plus function claims. Also, as described

in paragraph [0061] to [0062] of the present invention, while the embodiments of the invention were described in relation to mobile stations, embodiments of the invention are also applicable to any other suitable type of user equipment. The examples of the invention are described in the context of an IMS system and GPRS networks. The invention, however, is also applicable to any other access technique. The given examples are described in the context of SIP networks with SIP capable entities. This invention is also applicable to either wireless or fixed line systems and various standards and protocols. Therefore, a person of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that the application server could include hardware and software.

Claims 20-22 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. This rejection is essentially the same as the previous rejection, in that the Office Action objected to the various means-plus-function features for which no corresponding structure had been identified. This rejection is respectfully traversed. The arguments discussed above are incorporated herein.

The Office Action objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a). Specifically, the Office Action alleged that the drawings do not show every feature of the invention specified in the claim because the features of claims 20-22 and 26 are not shown in the drawings. A new drawing that shows corresponding structure for the means-plus-function term "including means," "connecting means," and "sending means" is submitted

in the attached replacement drawing sheet. As such, it is respectfully requested that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

Claims 1-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,725,053 to Rosen (Rosen). It is respectfully submitted that the claims recite subject matter that is neither disclosed nor suggested in Rosen.

Independent claim 1, upon which claims 2-5 and 7-13 are dependent, recites a method that includes including floor status information of a data communication media in relation to a party of a communication session in a message carrying data communication media information for the communication session. The method also includes sending the message from a communication system to a user equipment. The method additionally includes generating the message in accordance with a session description protocol.

Independent claim 14 recites a computer program readable medium encoded with instructions which perform including floor status information of a data communication media in relation to a party of a communication session in a message carrying data communication media information for the communication session. A computer program readable medium encoded with instructions which also perform sending the message from a communication system to a user equipment, and generating the message in accordance with a session description protocol.

Independent claim 15, upon which claims 16-19 are dependent, recites a system that includes a data network configured to provide data communication resources. The system also includes an application server configured to connect to the data

communication network. The application server is configured to include floor status information of a data communication media in relation to a party of a communication session in a message carrying data communication media information for the communication session and to send the message to a user equipment via the data network. The system also includes a generator configured to generate the message in accordance with a session description protocol.

Independent claim 20, upon which claims 21-23 are dependent, recites an apparatus that includes an including unit configured to include floor status information of a data communication media in relation to a party of a communication session in a message carrying data communication media information for the communication session. The apparatus includes a sending unit configured to send the message to a user equipment via a data network. The apparatus also includes a generator configured to generate the message in accordance with a session description protocol.

Independent claim 24, upon which claim 25 is dependent, recites a system that includes a node to transmit or receive a message describing a communication session. The message carries data communication media information for the communication session and floor status information of a data communication media in relation to a party of the communication session. The system also includes a generator configured to generate the message in accordance with a session description protocol.

Independent claim 26 recites a system that includes including means for including floor status information of a data communication media in relation to a party of a

communication session in a message carrying data communication media information for the communication session. The system also includes sending means for sending the message from a communication system to a user equipment. The system further includes generating means for generating the message in accordance with a session description protocol.

Independent claim 27 recites a system that includes data network means for providing data communication resources. The system also includes application server means for connecting to the data communication network. The application server means includes floor status information of a data communication media in relation to a party of a communication session in a message carrying data communication media information for the communication session and sends the message to a user equipment via the data network. The system further includes generating means for generating the message in accordance with a session description protocol.

Independent claim 28 recites an apparatus that includes including means for including floor status information of a data communication media in relation to a party of a communication session in a message carrying data communication media information for the communication session. The apparatus also includes sending means for sending the message to a user equipment via a data network. The apparatus further includes generating means for generating the message in accordance with a session description protocol.

As will be discussed below, Rosen fails to disclose or suggest all of the elements of any of the presently pending claims.

Rosen generally describes a method and apparatus for reducing dormant-wakeup latency in a group communication network provides for a significant reduction in the actual total dormant-wakeup time and the PTT latency perceived by the talker through caching the network-initiated wakeup triggers destined for target listeners, and delivering a wakeup trigger to a target mobile station as soon as the target mobile station has re-established its traffic channel. See abstract of Rosen.

On page 3, the Office Action took the position that Rosen discloses "generating the message in accordance with a session description protocol," as recited in claim 6. In particular, the Office Action asserted that column 6, line 59, to column 7, line 23, of Rosen discloses this feature. The Office Action took the position that this cited portion of Rosen discloses all the features recited in claim 1 as well as the feature recited in claim 6. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Office Action's position.

The Office Action has identified channel 212 of Rosen as allegedly corresponding to a message including both communication media information for the communication session and floor status information. However, clearly channel 212 of Rosen is not a message. Rather, channel 212 of Rosen is a channel which carries a plurality of messages. In fact, the arrangement in figure 2 of Rosen utilizes three separate channels: a session initiation protocol (SIP) channel 210; a net broadcast service (NBS) media signaling channel 212; and a media traffic channel 214. Rosen describes that the NBS

- 17 -

media signaling channel 212 is used to handle push-to-talk requests and releases, arbitrate between conflicting requests for floor control, announce the beginning and end of information transmission, manage net dormancy, track end point connectivity, request and exchange net status, and notify any error messages. However, Rosen does not disclose or suggest that data communication media information and floor status information is incorporated into a single message. Rather, it is apparent from Rosen that different messages are in fact used. This can be seen by reading further through the Rosen document which describes in relation to figure 3 an exemplary call signaling process for a floor control request process. As can be clearly seen in figure 3, the floor status information sent to the mobile station is provided in its own dedicated message 314 in short data burst (SDB) format. As such, it would appear that there is absolutely no disclosure or suggestion of sending a session description protocol message from a communication system to a user equipment, the message comprising both data communication media information and floor status information.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Rosen fails to disclose or suggest, at least, "generating the message in accordance with a session description protocol," as recited in the presently pending claims. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1, 14, 15, 20, 24, and 26 be withdrawn.

Claims 27 and 28 also recite similar features as those recited in claims 15 and 20, respectively. Applicants incorporate herein the arguments presented above supporting

the patentability of independent claims 15 and 20 to support the patentability of independent claims 27 and 28.
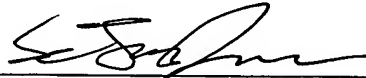
Claims 2-5, 7-13, 16-19, 21-23, and 25 are dependent upon claims 1, 15, 20, and 24, respectively. Accordingly, claims 2-13, 16-19, 21-23, and 25 should be allowed for at least their dependence upon claims 1, 15, 20, and 24, and for the specific limitations recited therein.

For the reasons explained above, it is respectfully submitted that each of claims 1-5 and 7-28 recites subject matter that is neither disclosed nor suggested in the cited art. It is, therefore, respectfully requested that all of claims 1-5 and 7-28 be allowed, and that this application be passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,

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SA:dc

Enclosures: Figure 4
                    Additional Claim Fee Transmittal
                    Check No. 17690